

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

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COUNTRY

East Germany

SECURITY INFORMATION

REPORT NO.

TOPIC

General Military Information

EVALUATION

see below

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

6 to 28 August 1953

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED

10 September 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES

4

ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

An excerpt of paragraph 1 was previously disseminated

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1. At about 4 p.m. on 26 August 1953, about 20 trucks, 20 jeeps, 20 van-like trucks, 5 trailers and an undetermined number of troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets were entrained at the Friedrichsstadt railroad station, Magdeburg. [redacted] troops and materiel had come from the Anzer Kaserne. [redacted]

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At about 3 p.m. on 27 August, about 20 telephone trucks [redacted]

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and an undetermined number of troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets were entrained from the loading ramp of Alter Viehhof, on Landwehrstrasse. At about 4 p.m. on 27 August, about 20 trucks, 20 radio trucks, and 10 large cross-country sedans [redacted]

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which [redacted] had come from the Encke Kaserne, were entrained. On 27 August, truck [redacted] carrying a large box and escorted by 6 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, went from the Encke Kaserne to the loading ramp. The road was blocked and guarded.¹ On 27 August, the Flak Kaserne, the Hindenburg Kaserne, and the Herrenkrug Kaserne were partially occupied; and the Seeckt Kaserne, Nachrichten Kaserne and Zuckerbusch Kaserne were occupied by rear details.²

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2. At about 8:45 a.m. on 27 August, 20 trucks, including [redacted] and an undetermined number of troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets were loaded on 10 flatcars from the ramp between Magdeburg-Neustadt and Magdeburg-main station. At about 11:30 a.m. on 27 August, 80-mm guns and trucks were entrained. At about 11:15 a.m. on 27 August, a shipment of 8 flatcars carrying trucks, [redacted] 2 field kitchens, and 1 flatcar equipped with AA machine guns, was shunted at the Magdeburg railroad station.³

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3. At about 4 p.m. on 27 August, 80 T-34 tanks, [redacted] and 40 prime movers [redacted] were seen in Biesdorf, in the area adjoining the Wuhlgarten insane asylum to the north. On 27 August, about 30 T-34 tanks covered by camouflage nets, and 25 trucks mounting machine guns [redacted] were seen north of the air bath installation on Karlshorster Landstrasse. Karlshorst.⁴

25X1C

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

SECRET

25X1A

- 2 -

4. At about 10 a.m. on 28 August, 9 T-34 tanks, 4 JSU-122 guns, about 15 motor vehicles, [redacted] and 5 boxcarloads of troops were entrained at the Kaulsdorf railroad station. 4 25X1C
5. On 27 August, [redacted] determined that the tent camp on Treskow Allee, Wuhlheide, was vacant. Twelve soldiers wearing black-bordered black epaulets were seen removing telephone lines. A truck [redacted] was seen nearby. 4 25X1C
6. A local resident stated that, beginning about 15 August, major exercises of the Soviet Army were held in the Fuerstenberg area. The exercises involved tanks, engineers and infantry from Mecklenburg. [redacted] 25X1C
7. At about 3:30 p.m. on 27 August, numerous flatcars were assembled at the Altentreptow railroad station. At about 5 p.m., a train of 10 boxcars, occupied by troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, and 30 empty flatcars without engines was seen in Neustrelitz.
8. During the night of 23 August, about 1,500 troops were seen entering the barracks installation in Bad Freienwalde, coming from the direction of Gersdorf. The soldiers were young and had closely cropped hair. Between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. on 24 August, 60 to 80 trucks occupied by troops, 8 x 160-mm mortars, 43 x 120-mm mortars, 4 x 57-mm AT guns and 8 x 76-mm AT guns were seen leaving. [redacted] 25X1C
9. Between 6 and 16 August, no troop trains were observed at the Kietz railroad station. Prior to 15 August, the Artillerie Kaserne in Kuestrin was occupied by about 200 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets. On 16 August, one shipment from Kroepelin and one from Neubukow, totaling 16 x 85-mm AA guns, 4 Puaso-3 radar sets, 45 motor vehicles, 2 field kitchens and about 350 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets were seen arriving in Kuestrin. [redacted] On 16 August, 25X1A
- 4 x 85-mm AA guns, 1 Puaso-3 radar set and 6 trucks occupied by about 80 troops and carrying billeting equipment left Kuestrin toward Manschnow. On 17 August, the Artillerie Kaserne was occupied by about 550 troops. On 28 August, 20 x 250-mm AA guns, 37 motor vehicles, 2 field kitchens and about 250 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, and, on another train, 6 x 25-mm AA guns, 11 motor vehicles, 1 field kitchen and about 75 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets arrived in Kuestrin from the direction of Jueterbog and were detrained. The motor vehicles [redacted] 25X1C
- [redacted] carried billeting and sports equipment and ration supplies. [redacted] Part of the shipment was forwarded toward Wriezen. On 22 August, the six 25-mm AA guns emplaced in the west section of the training area were removed they left by road toward Manschnow, escorted by about 40 troops. Between 18 and 23 August, 16 x 85-mm AA guns, 4 Puaso-3 radar sets, and 1 radar with parabolic reflector were observed in the east section of the training area. Troops observed received instruction on 85-mm and 25-mm AA guns. Trucks [redacted] were seen nearby. 25X1C

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- 3 -

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10. At about 5 a.m. on 19 August, 30 trucks [] about 300 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, 6 x 76-mm or 85-mm AA guns, 8 x 122-mm field howitzers and 2 searchlights from the Artillerie Kaserne were entrained at the Frankfurt/Oder shunting station and left for an undetermined destination.⁸ The following troops and materiel from the Horn Kaserne were entrained: 10 T-34/85 tanks, 8 JS-2 tanks, 1 SP gun, 15 trucks and jeeps, 3 two-axle armored scout cars and 600 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets at about 5 a.m. on 23 August, and 10 T-34/85 tanks, 10 JS tanks, 5 two-axle armored scout cars, 20 trucks, billeting equipment and about 800 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets between 11 p.m. and 12 p.m. on 24 August.

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11. Troop trains seen passing through Muellrose between 19 and 27 August included:

19 August. A train of 20 boxcars occupied by troops, with about 15 flatcars carrying 57-mm AT guns and 25-mm AA guns, coming from the direction of Frankfurt/Oder and proceeding toward Cottbus at 10 p.m.

20 August. A shipment of 7 canvas-covered trucks, coming from the direction of Cottbus and proceeding toward Frankfurt/Oder at 11:32 p.m.

21 August. A train of 17 boxcars occupied by troops and about 40 flatcars carrying 17 x 25-mm AA guns and 39 trucks [] proceeding toward Kuestrin at 10:48 p.m. []

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23 August. A train of 9 boxcars occupied by troops, and about 30 flatcars carrying 19 trucks [] and 17 T-34 tanks; and another train of 4 boxcars occupied by troops and an undetermined number of flatcars carrying 8 JS tanks, presumably proceeding toward Kuestrin at about 11 a.m. and 12:39 p.m. respectively. []

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27 August. A train carrying 1 x 25-mm AA gun and 4 x 122-mm field howitzers, coming from the direction of Koenigswusterhausen at 3:38 p.m.

A train of 2 flatcars carrying trucks [] 8 SSy-type flatcars carrying 8 JS tanks and 4 T-34 tanks, and 8 empty SSy-type flatcars, at 4:33 p.m. The materiel had been entrained in Grunow. [] the belief that the shipment belonged to the unit which, during the night on 24 August, held a night exercise in the Mixdorf-Grunow area.⁹ []

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1. Comment. The entrained units probably were headquarters units and signal elements of the Third Shock Army and the 105th Sig Regt. According to reports on transportation, shipments [] went from Magdeburg to Fasse-walk and Prenzlau on 27 and 28 August. The observation that five troop trains went to Angermuende from Forst Zinna and Luckenwalde between 26 and 28 August, and the entraining of about 50 motor vehicles of the Eighth Gds Army from Nohra in Weimar on 26 August, tend to indicate that a command-post exercise started in the area west and southwest of Stettin in late August. Movements from other army areas and the headquarters of the GOFG in Wuensdorf have not been observed.

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- 4 -

- 25X1A 2. [] Comment. [] on 5 August, furnished similar information
[] occupation of the barracks installations mentioned. See
[] 25X1A
- 25X1A 3. [] Comment. It is undetermined whether these trains from Magdeburg, in
connection with the movements mentioned in paragraph 1, also went to the
northeast of the zone.
- 25X1A 4. [] Comment. Information [] of paragraph 3 tends to indicate that
the known bivouacs of the 6th and 7th Gds Mecz Div in the north of Biesdorf
and in Karlshorst were still occupied on 27 August. According to paragraph 5,
units of the 7th Gds Mecz Div were possibly stationed only in the area south-
west of the south station in Wuhlheide. According to reports on transportation,
the train loaded on 28 August with elements of the 6th Gds Mecz Div went to
Biesenthal []
- 25X1 5. [] Comment. No other information on exercises in this area is available.
- 25X1A 6. [] Comment. The observations also tend to indicate that units of the 6th
Gds Mecz Div continually conducted exercises in the area southwest of Bad
Freienwalde. It is believed that the bulk of the 240 th Gds Mort Regt
participated in these exercises, [] on the evening of 24 August,
observed that the regiment left the barracks installation in Bad Freienwalde. 25X1
[] 25X1A
- 25X1A 7. [] Comment. [] paragraph 9 observed the return from Neubukow and
Kroepelin of medium units of the 32d AAA Div (US) on trains [] 25X1C
[] on 16 August; and of light units from Jueterbog on trains []
[] on 21 August. The movements toward Manschnow are accounted for by 25X1C
the fact that details of the division are detached for guard duty at an
undetermined place toward Berlin.
- 25X1A 8. [] Comment. According to reports on transportation, trains [] 25X1C
25X1C [] were dispatched to Kroepelin and Neubukow
25X1 from Frankfurt/Oder. [] observed the loading of one of these
trains with elements of the 32d AAA Div (US). However, the loading of field
howitzers is doubted.
- 25X1A 9. [] Comment. According to railroad records, these shipments of tank units
of the 7th Gds Mecz Div on 23 and 24 August went to Grunow [] 25X1
25X1 [] The units probably participated in exercises
believed to be held in this area. [] On 27 August, 25X1A
25X1C the units were retransferred on trains [] The two trains
observed on 23 August went to Frankfurt/Oder and had come from Beeskow.
They were also connected with the exercises mentioned.

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